Out of Africa

STATE OF THE CHURCH RELECTS

THE STATE OF A NATION

a word of encouragement from Stephen Lungu

Beloved Partners in the Gospel,

Of late, I have been so burdened about the state of the Church around us and the world. The Church is not living In the Promised Land as it were, but in Babylon. I mean The Church for which Jesus Christ died. Somehow, the Church has come up with so many artificial revivals, self anointing mixed with the prosperity gospel. It is a Church that does not like carrying the Cross and following the "Man of sorrows.” Our present Church lives in too much luxury, little time of prayer with a cup of coffee. The brothers and sisters who began that vibrant Church in the book of Acts would be shocked and cry if they came back to life today. Hence there is need for restoration of the Church today.

A good picture from the Bible is about the children of Israel. They began their journey from Rameses in the land of Goshen. That was the beginning of God’s deliverance from the bondage of the Egyptians to the Promised Land. It was history in the making. As long as they continued talking with the Lord and obeyed His commands, they also continued enjoying the peace and the fruits of the land. They enjoyed good health and victory from their enemies around them. Later, this is what God said about Israel: “You are the children of the LORD your God…. for uou are a people holy to the LORD your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the LORD has chosen you to be his treasured possession.” (Deuteronomy 14:1a

and 2)

Unfortunately, when Israel sinned against God, they were taken even further from the Promised Land into Babylon under the cruel king Nebuchadnezzar. God used a eathen king to punish His own chosen people. Yes when you look in our present map, you will see where Babylon was situated. Those are the same nations who have become a menace today.

The state of the Church in a country portrays the state of the nation. The increase of corruption in high places, immorality, drugs, divorce, unresolved conflicts within the church;

indeed, that must tell us that something is seriously wrong with the Church. The Church, in a way, has compromised its stand and has become complacent. And it is at this present state that the Psalmist in chapter 80 cries for God’s intervention for salvation. There is a deep cry beckoning God the Great Shepherd of Israel to save them. In verses 3, 7 and 19 the Psalmist repeats himself begging God to restore Israel. Now, restoration is actually bringing something back

to its original condition. Oh God Almighty, bring us to our original condition. The Psalmist’s cry was: “Restore us, O Lord God Almighty, make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.” Oh my earnest prayer is that African Enterprise will continue to stand as a ministry which will address these issues and never compromise the truth of the whole gospel.

Our beloved partners, may I urge you to continue to stand with us so that we may never compromise the truth of the word of God. I want you be encouraged that we are making

these great exploits for the kingdom of God because of your prayers and financial support. Thank you a million times for all that you mean to us.

Yours for the extension of God’s Kingdom

Stephen Lungu

International Team Leader